

REMARKS

The Examiner is thanked for the thorough examination of the present application, the allowance of claims 12-18, 20, 26-28, and 30, and the indication that claims 7 and 36 embody allowable subject matter. The Office Action, however, has rejected the remaining claims. In response, Applicant submits the foregoing amendments and the following remarks. Specifically, the Office Action rejected claims 1-2, 5-6, 9-10, 31 and 33-35 under 35 U.S.C. 102(e) as allegedly being anticipated by Hughes (US 6,633,725). The Office Action further rejected claims 3-4 and 32 under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as allegedly being unpatentable over Hughes in view of De Bruijne (US 6,944,392).

Amendments to the Claims

In reliance on the Examiner's indication that claim 7 embodies allowable subject matter, Applicant has amended independent claim 1 to incorporate the allowable subject matter of claim 7. Claim 7 has been correspondingly cancelled. As independent claim 1 has been amended to incorporate the allowable subject matter of claim 7, claim 1 is now in condition for allowance. Insofar as claims 2-6 and 9-10 depend from claim 1, these claims define over the cited art for at least the same reasons as claim 1. *In re Fine*, 837 F.2d 1071, 5 U.S.P.Q.2d 1596, 1600 (Fed. Cir. 1988).

As noted above, claims 12-18, 20, 26-28, and 30 were allowed. Claims 31-36 have been cancelled, thereby rendering the rejections of, and objection to, those claims moot.

CONCLUSION

Applicant respectfully submits that all pending claims are in condition for allowance. Favorable reconsideration and allowance of the present application and all pending claims are hereby courteously requested. If, in the opinion of the Examiner, a telephone conference would expedite the examination of this matter, the Examiner is invited to call the undersigned attorney at (770) 933-9500.

No fee is believed to be due in connection with this amendment and response to Office Action. If, however, any fee is believed to be due, you are hereby authorized to charge any such fee to deposit account No. 20-0778.

Respectfully submitted,

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